

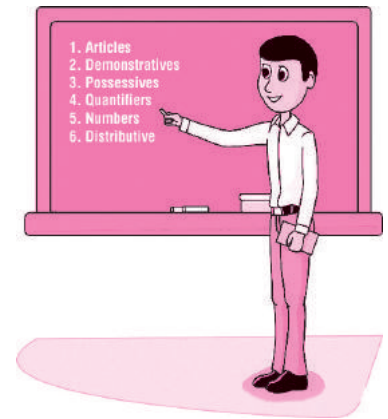
1

Determiners

What are determiners ?

Determiners are those words which come before noun and show how they are used. The use of noun is necessary after a determiner. Sometimes a qualifying word may also come among determiner and noun words.

a boy a good boy



Kinds of Determiners

1. **Articles** : a/an, the.
2. **Demonstratives** : this, that, these, those.
3. **Possessives** : my, our, your, his, her, their, its.
4. **Quantifiers** : a few, a little, much, many, a lot of, most, some, any, enough.
5. **Numbers** : one, ten, some, any, many, a few, all, several, each, every, either, neither etc.
6. **Distributive** : all, both, half, either, neither, each, every, only.

1. Articles

'A', 'an' and 'the' are called articles in the English language. These are divided into two categories: (A) Indefinite Articles — A or An (B) Definite Article — The

1. Use of 'A' and 'An'— Indefinite Articles

'A' and 'an' are called indefinite articles. The use of 'a' and 'an' is basically related with the sound of pronunciation of words. 'A' is used before words which begin with consonant sound, no matter whether their first letter is a vowel or a consonant. **e.g.**

a man, a boy, a university, a European, a pen, a dog, a useful thing, a useless pen, etc.

'An' is used before words which begin with vowel sound, no matter whether their first letter is a vowel or a consonant. **e.g.**

an apple, an hour, an M.A., an egg, an heir an M.B.B.S., an elephant, an honourable man, an M.Sc., etc.

NOTE : 'A' and 'an' are weak forms of 'one'. These are used before countable singular nouns. These are not used before uncountable and plural nouns. Material nouns and abstract nouns are considered uncountable nouns and therefore 'a' and 'an' cannot be used before them except for some specific situations.



Use of a/n

(1) Before the countable and singular nouns which are used for the first time.

- (i) I have *a* book.
- (ii) She lives in *a* hut.
- (iii) He saw *an* old man.
- (iv) Mr Sharma is *an* umpire of this match.

(2) Before such singular noun complements which signify a business or profession.

- (i) She is *a* nurse.
- (ii) He is *an* engineer.
- (iii) Neeraj is *a* doctor.
- (iv) She is *an* actress.

(3) Before expressions of price, speed, repetitions, etc. (*a = per*) As :

- two rupees *a* kilo, six times *a* day, 80 rupees *a* dozen, 20 kms *an* hour, etc.

(4) Before numerical expressions.

- half *a* dozen, *a* lot of, *a* great deal of, *a* great many, *a* quarter, etc.

(5) Before singular countable in exclamatory sentences.

- 1. What *a* beautiful flower!
- 2. What *a* pretty colour !
- 3. What *a* cold day !

(6) Before abbreviated form of degrees and posts.

- (a) If the word begins with vowel sound then 'an' is used.
- (b) If the word begins with consonant sound then 'a' is used.

e.g. *an* M.A., *an* M.Sc., *an* M. Com., *an* S.P., *an* L.L. B., *an* M.L.A., *an* S.D.M., *an* L.D.C., or *a* B. Com., *a* B. Sc., *a* U.D.C., etc.

(7) 'A' is used before Mr/ Mrs/ Miss + Surname, if the speaker is not well acquainted with the speaker.

- a* Mr Sharma, *a* Mrs Mathur, *a* Miss Gupta, etc.

a Mr Sharma refers a person to whom the speaker is not introduced. If the speaker knows him, he should say 'Mr Sharma' instead of 'a Mr Sharma'.

2. Use of 'The' — Definite Article

'The' is called definite article and it can be used before singular as well as plural nouns in the following situations :

(1) Before nouns introduced earlier.

- (i) I saw a lion. *The* lion was sleeping under a tree.
- (ii) We heard a noise. *The* noise came from a neighbour's house.

(2) Before the superlative degrees of adjectives.

- (i) Ravi is *the* best singer in the school.
- (ii) My uncle is *the* richest man in the town.

EXCEPTION : If possessive adjectives like my, his, her, their, your, our, etc. have been used before superlative degree, 'the' is not used. e.g.

- (i) He is my best friend.
- (ii) Mr Dixit is our best teacher.

(3) Before nouns defined by a phrase or a clause.

- (i) *The* girl in the blue skirt is my sister.
- (ii) *The* man with a little nose is our Principal.
- (iii) *The* cars made in our factory are very cheap.
- (iv) *The* book on the table belongs to the library.

(4) Before singular nouns which signify the whole class or race.

- (i) *The* dog is a faithful animal.
- (ii) *The* elephant has a long trunk.
- (iii) *The* cat likes milk.

- (5) Before the names of rivers, seas, oceans, bays, deserts, islands, chains of mountains, canals, jungles, plural names of countries and republics.

*The Ganga, The Yamuna, (rivers) The Bay of Bengal, The Arabian Sea,
The Gulf of Mexico, The Thar, The Sahara, The Himalayas, The Aravalis,
The USA, The UK, The West Indies, The U.N.,etc.*

NOTE : If words like 'Lake', 'Mount' and 'Cape' come before such entities, 'The' is not used before such words. e.g. Mount Everest, Lake Mansarovar, Cape Comorin, etc.

- (6) Before adjectives which are used as nouns.

(i) *The brave* always rule over the earth. (ii) *The rich* should help the poor.
(iii) *The weak* can never do anything.

- (7) Before the names of things which are unique and only one in the world.

The sun, the moon, the sky, the earth, the world, the Taj, the Great Wall of China, etc.

- (8) Before names which are in combination of adjective + noun.

The National Highway.

- (9) Before the names of religious books, musical instruments and ordinal numbers.

The Geeta, the Bible, the Quran, the Ramayan, the violin, the flute, the first, the fourth, the eleventh, the last, the next, etc.

- (10) When two comparative degrees are used in one statement.

(i) *The more* you have, *the more* you want. (ii) *The sooner, the better.*
(iii) *The higher* you go, *the cooler* you feel.

- (11) When a proper noun is compared with another well renowned proper noun, that well renowned proper noun acts as common noun and 'the' is used before it.

Kalidas is *the* Shakespeare of India. (Great Dramatist)

- (12) Before the names of religious communities, castes, nationality, political parties, ships, trains, aeroplanes, etc.

The Hindus, the Sikhs, the Jats.

The English, the Indians, the Americans, the Congress, the BJP, the CPI, the CPM, the Pink City Express, the Ashoka, the Titanic.

- (13) Before the plural surnames used for the entire family.

The Guptas, (Gupta family) the Sharmas, (Sharma family), etc.

- (14) Before the dates and days of national importance.

The 15th August, the 26th January, the Independence Day, the Republic Day, etc.

- (15) Before nouns which come after the words like all, some of, one of, each of.

All *the* boys, some of *the* students, one of *the* girls, each of *the* winners.

- (16) Before combination as noun + of + noun.

The Bay of Bengal, The temples of Mathura.

- (17) Before the name of newspapers, directions and regions.

The Rajasthan Patrika, the East, the North, the East.

Omission of the Articles

No article is used in the following situations :

(1) Before proper noun, material noun and abstract noun.

- (i) *Arjun* was a great archer. (Proper noun)
 (ii) *Gold* is more expensive than silver. (Material noun)
 (iii) *Wisdom* is greater than wealth. (Abstract noun)

(2) When a common noun is used in wide sense.

- (i) Man is mortal. (ii) Man is a social animal.

(3) Before the names of languages, subjects, public places, games, diseases and meals at definite times.

- (i) I am learning French. (language) (ii) She doesn't like physics. (subject)
 (iii) They go to school regularly. (public place) (iv) We play hockey everyday. (game)
 (v) I have lunch at noon. (meal) (vi) He goes to temple daily. (public place)

(4) Before the names of nations, colours, festivals, states, cities :

- (i) *India* has a very old and rich culture. (ii) The leaves of this plant have turned *yellow*.
 (iii) *Diwali* is celebrated with pomp and show. (iv) Jaipur is the capital of *Rajasthan*.

(5) Before the word God (when G is capital and the word God is used for Almighty) :

- (i) He prayed to God for help. (ii) God is everywhere and within every soul.

(6) Before the names of bed, church, court, hospital, prison, school/college, university, when they are used for their primary purpose.

- (i) I go to school to study. (i) My father is coming to the school to see the teacher.

2. Demonstratives

This and that are used before singular countable nouns while these and those are used before plural countable nouns. e.g.

- (i) This student is my brother. (ii) These books are ours. (iii) That cat is mine.

NOTE : 'This' and 'these' are used for the things and persons which are near the speaker, while 'that' and 'those' are used for distant nouns or things.

3. Possessives

My, our, your, his, her, its, their are called possessive and these are used to indicate relation of things or actions with other things or nouns. e.g.

- (i) He is my brother. (ii) Your brother is coming.

4. Quantifiers

(i) **Little** : It is used before uncountable nouns and it means very less or negligible.

I am very busy. I have *little* time for fun.

(ii) **A little** : It is also used before uncountable nouns and it means less amount.

There is *a little* milk in the jug.

- (iii) **The little** : It is also used before uncountable nouns and it means all that very less.
I ate *the little* food you gave me.
- (iv) **Few** : It is used before plural countable nouns and it means very less or negligible.
He has *few* book.
- (v) **A few** : It is also used before plural countable nouns and it means something but less in number.
Only *a few* boys passed in English.
- (vi) **The few** : It is also used before plural countable nouns and it means all that very less.
I have already read *the few* books I had.
- (vii) **Many** : It is used before plural countable nouns and it means large in number.
I have *many* friends.
- (viii) **Much** : It is used before uncountable nouns and it means large in amount.
I don't have *much* milk.
- (ix) **Some** : It is used before countable as well as uncountable nouns in affirmative sentences and to express offer or request. It means less in amount or number.
(i) There is *some* milk in the pot. (ii) Will you spare *some* time for me?
- (x) **Any** : It is also used before countable as well as uncountable nouns and it means some in number or amount. It is usually used in negative and interrogative sentences. But in affirmative sentences it can be used with some negative adverbials :
(i) He didn't do *any* work. (ii) Are there *any* pens?
(iii) He has hardly *any* work to do.
- (xi) **Various and Several** : These both are used before plural countable nouns. Various is used for many things or persons of different types. Several is used for many things or persons of some category.
(i) *Various* books were lying on the table. (ii) He sold *several* books.
- (xii) **Enough** : It is used before both countable as well as uncountable nouns and it means adequate in number or amount.
I have *enough* money.
- (xiii) **Both** : It is used before countable nouns to indicate their being two in number. It can also be used before uncountable nouns if they are of two types.
(i) *Both* of them were wise. (ii) I will *drink* both milk and tea.

5. Numbers

Determiners signifying number are of two types :

- (a) **Definite Number** : These indicate definite number such as : one, two, first, second.
(b) **Indefinite Number** : These indicate indefinite number. These are : some, many, many a, a few, all, lots of, a great deal of, a good deal of, plenty of, a large number of, several, etc.

Many a : It means several but singular noun is used with it. *e.g.*

Many a man has lost everything due to their greed.

All : It means including everyone or the entire amount there is :

All of us were tired.



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A lot of, a great deal of, a good deal of, plenty of, a large number of :

All these are used before singular uncountable and plural countable nouns and these mean large in number or amount.

(i) I have *a lot of* friends.

(ii) People have *a good deal of* faith in democracy.

6. Distributive

Each, every, either and neither are used to indicate one person or thing among many persons or things.

Each : It is used for a definite number. It is used when the number of persons or things is limited or less.

Every : It is used for an indefinite number of persons or things.

(i) *Each* question carries equal marks. (ii) *Every* word of this letter is correct.

(iii) *Either* room is good.

(iv) *Neither* boy was present.

Only : It is used to indicate just the one and none or nothing else.

(i) Sangeeta is the *only* girl fit to take this responsibility.

(ii) The bank is the *only* place where our money is safe.

(iii) Rahim is the *only* cook who can cook such delicious food.

EXERCISE-1

Fill in the blanks with *a/an/the/x*.

1. She is untidy girl.
2. She scored highest marks in the examination.
3. April is fourth month of the year.
4. Sunil, watchman of our colony, has gone home.
5. Which is nearest railway station from here ?
6. Ganga is sacred river for Hindus.
7. Let's discuss problem seriously.
8. I first saw Himalayas year ago but I have not climbed Mount Everest.
9. I was driving my bike at 60 km hour.
10. sky is overcast.
11. He is poorest boy of the class.
12. I bought pen,inkpot and pencil.
13. Don't make noise.
14. Draw map of India.
15. dog is animal.

EXERCISE-2

Fill in the blanks with *a/an/the/x*.

1. old and young should live together.
2. He turned on television.
3. I have got cold.

4. Most of students were absent from class.
5. tiger is fierce animal.
6. honesty is best policy.
7. more one has, more one wants.
8. Kalidas is Shakespeare of India.
9. Please open window.
10. Where is pen I bought last week ?
11. What is matter ?
12. I am fond of tea with milk.
13. Mr Sinha is M.A. in English.
14. Open book and read passage.
15. After year or two question can be answered.

EXERCISE-3

Fill in the blanks with a/an/the/x.

1. Englishmen speak.....English.
2. Gold is.....useful metal.
3. hunter saw bird in tree.
4. Can blind see ?
5. Sri Lanka is to South of India.
6. cow is useful animal.
7. June is hottest month of year.
8. I shall be back in hour.
9. Ram and Sita were husband and wife.
10. Do you like sugar in tea ?
11. I wrote to father for money.
12. Are you going to England by sea or by air ?
13. I saw nest of owl on tree.
14. Go and buy half kilo of sugar.
15. donkeys are stupid animals.

EXERCISE-4

Fill in the blanks with many/much :

1. She hasn't learnt lessons yet.
2. How friends are coming to the party ?
3. How milk do you want to have ?
4. Did you like sugar in coffee ?
5. students attended the function.
6. There are not temples in our town.
7. Were there friends in the party ?
8. Hurry up ! We haven't got time.



9. I travel a lot. I have been to countries.
10. There isn't milk in this cup.

EXERCISE-5

Fill in the blanks with 'few/a few/the few / little/a little/the little :

1. He has only friends.
2. friends he has are really faithful to him.
3. A poor man has money to waste.
4. There is work left to complete.
5. work left yesterday has been completed.
6. It is the end of the month, but I still have rupees left.
7. We have trees in our school.
8. He is very busy. He has time to watch TV.
9. The lady has ornaments to give.
10. We dropped the idea to visit Delhi as we had money.

ANSWERS

Exercise-1

1. an 2. the 3. the 4. the, x 5. the 6. The, the, the 7. the 8. the, an, x 9. an 10. The 11. the 12. a, an, a 13. a 14. a 15. A, an.

Exercise-2

1. The, the 2. the 3. a 4. the, the 5. A, a 6. x, the 7. The, the 8. the 9. the 10. the 11. the 12. x, x 13. an, x 14. the, the 15. an, the.

Exercise-3

1. x, x 2. a 3. The, a, the 4. a 5. the 6. A, a 7. the, the 8. an 9. x 10. x, x 11. x, x 12. x, x 13. a, an, the 14. x, a 15. x, x.

Exercise-4

1. many 2. many 3. much 4. much 5. Many 6. many 7. many 8. much 9. many 10. much.

Exercise-5

1. a few 2. The few 3. little 4. a little 5. The little 6. a few 7. a few 8. little 9. a few 10. little.



2

Relative Pronoun

Read the following sentences carefully :

1. This is the boy *who* is my best friend.
2. This is the book *which* I like most.
3. I have lost the watch *that* you presented me.
4. This is the boy *whose* friends are coming today.
5. These are the boys/girls *whom* all praise.



In above sentences, each sentence has two sentences or clauses joined by words who/which/that/whose/whom etc. These words are called conjunctive pronouns because these act as conjunctions between two clauses. These words are also called Relative Pronouns because these relate the second clause with first clause and these are used to represent their Antecedent or the Noun just before them.

In sentence (1), the word *who* represents the noun *boy* and hence it acts as Pronoun. As this word relates second clause with first clause (Second Clause 'who is my best friend' is the description of first clause 'This is the boy') it is called Relative Pronoun. Hence all words *who* / *which* / *that* / *whose* / *whom* are **Relative Pronouns**.

Use of Relative Pronouns When Blank Space is Given in Sentences

Shortcuts

1. Use of Who

'Who' is used when there is any person before blank space and a verb after blank space.

Pattern : Person + + Verb

- (i) I know Mr Sharma, teaches you English. **Ans.** who
- (ii) The boy..... is standing there is my brother. **Ans.** who

2. Use of Whom

'Whom' is used when there is any person before the blank space and another person + verb after the blank space.

Pattern : Person + + Subject (person) + Verb

- (i) The boy he gave money was very poor. **Ans.** whom
Person Person + Verb
- (ii) The man I helped was in trouble. **Ans.** whom
Person Person + Verb
- (iii) The lady you talked with is my aunt. **Ans.** whom
Person Person + Verb



3. Use of Whose

'Whose' is used when there is a person before the blank space and thing + verb or thing + person + verb or person + verb.

- Pattern :**
- Person + thing + Verb
 - Person + thing + person + Verb
 - Person + person + person + Verb
 - Person + person + Verb

Precaution must be taken while deciding the use of whom or whose.

NOTE: The use of *whom* or *whose* depends on the sense of the sentence.

- (i) The manshirt is blue is my uncle. Ans. whose
Person (thing + verb)
- (ii) The mancar you borrowed is my neighbour. Ans. whose
Person (thing + person + verb)
- (iii) The manson you taught is my uncle. Ans. whose
Person (person + person + verb)
- (iv) The boyfather is a doctor is my friend. Ans. whose
Person (person + verb)

4. Use of Which

'Which' is used when there is any lifeless thing or animal before the blank space and a noun or verb after the blank space e.g.

- (i) The dog.....bit you is his. Ans. which
- (ii) The book.....Mohan gave me is yours. Ans. which

NOTE : If there is anything or animal + Preposition before the blank space then which is used. e.g.

- (i) The post forI was selected is temporary. Ans. which
- (ii) I don't like the house in.....he lives. Ans. which

5. Use of What :

- (A) When there is blank space in the beginning of a sentence.
- (B) When there is blank space after the verb.
- (C) When there is blank space after the verb + object and there is no Antecedent in the sentence e.g.

- (i) cannot be cured must be endured Ans. What
- (ii) This is he likes. (verb) Ans. what
- (iii) Do you please. (verb) Ans. what
- (iv) Give him he demands. (verb + obj.) Ans. what
- (v) Please tell me you need(verb + obj.) Ans. what

6. Use of When :-

If time is given just before the blank space, 'when' is used as Relative Pronoun. e.g.

- (i) It was midnight the thief entered the house. Ans. when

- (ii) It was Sunday we went on a picnic. Ans. when
 (iii) It was 2010 my father purchased this house. Ans. when

7. Use of Where :-

'Where' is used if there is place related noun before blank space. e.g.

- (i) This is the temple Gandhiji was shot dead. Ans. where
 (ii) This is the school I studied for five years. Ans. where
 (iii) The house I am staying is very big. Ans. where

8. Use of Why :

'Why' is used if there is reason before blank space.

- (i) This is the reason he didn't come. Ans. why
 (ii) This is the reason I called you. Ans. why

9. Use of That :-

With the following five conditions 'that' can be used as Relative Pronoun in place of who/whom/which.

- (A) If there is superlative degree before the noun (Antecedent) before blank space. e.g.
 Mohan is *the tallest* boy reads in our school. (superlative degree before the noun boy)
Ans. that
- (B) If the sentence is Interrogative. e.g.
 (i) *Who is* he troubles you ? Ans. that
 (ii) *What is* it worries him so much ? Ans. that
 (iii) *Who is* the man abuses you ? Ans. that
 (iv) *What is* it you like ? Ans. that
- (C) If there is any one of the following words before the blank space :
 only, any, same, all, nothing, no one, nobody, anybody, anything, none, little etc.
 (i) *All* glitters is not gold. Ans. that
 (ii) This is *the same* person you beat. Ans. that
- (D) If there are person + thing or person + animal before the blank space. e.g.
 (i) *The man and the dog* you see live the next door. Ans. that
 (ii) *The cowherd and his cow* we see walking on the ground live in this village.
Ans. that
- (E) If there is proposition after the verbs of Relative Clause. e.g.
 I know the man **that** you are talking *about*. (Prep.)
 If Preposition comes before Relative Pronoun 'whom' would be used in place of 'that'. e.g.
 (i) I know the **man** *about* whom you are talking. (Prep.)
 (ii) I know the house **that** he lives *in*. (Prep.)
 (iii) This is the book **that** I told you *about*. (Prep.)

EXERCISE-1

Fill in the blanks with suitable Relative Pronouns given in the brackets :

- The building (where/that/who) I live in was built in the 1920s.
- That is Peter, the boy (who/which/whom) has just arrived at the airport.



3. Do you remember the name of the man (whom/whose/that) car you crashed into ?
4. I mean (that/which/what) I say.
5. The hotel (that/which/where) we stayed in was very good.
6. This is the best book (that/which/whose) I've ever loved.
7. Mrs Richa, (that/who/whom) is a taxi driver, lives in a village.
8. Thank you very much for your e-mail(that/who/when) was very interesting.
9. The man (whose/which/that) father is a professor forgot his umbrella.
10. The children (whom/who/that) shouted in the street are not from our school.

EXERCISE-2

Fill in the blanks with when, where or why :

1. We visited the school my father taught.
2. I met her last year he came to my house.
3. We all looked at the place the fire had started.
4. I met him in the cafe he was working as a waiter.
5. Do you remember the time Vinod fell off his bicycle ?
6. Did they tell you the reason they were late ?
7. The cat sat on the wall from it had a good view of the birds.
8. I'm talking about the time they didn't have cars.
9. Last year I spent my holidays in Spain, I met Shashi.
10. I couldn't understand the reason they were so rude.

EXERCISE-3

(Based on Textbook)

Fill in the blanks with suitable Relative Pronouns given in brackets :

1. I looked into the eyes of the Fritz officer,[who/whom/which] approached me, hand outstretched.
2. Hans Wolf and I shared[what/which/whom] was left of our wonderful Christmas cake Connie.
3. There was a moment.....[where/when/who] I noticed our breaths mingling in the air between us.
4. Only the three children [who/whom/which] came with him were saved.
5. Then came the first giant wave[that/whom/where] swept both of them away.
6. I didn't know [what/why/where] was happening.
7. The Smiths later met other tourists.....[who/whom/whose] had lost entire families.
8. It was I[whom/who/that] fixed up your railway booking for Ranchi.

9. It is a joy.....[which/whose/when] lasts a lifetime.
10. The man.....[who/whose/whom] has been to the mountains is never the same again.

EXERCISE-4*(Based on Textbook)*

Fill in the blanks with suitable Relative Pronouns given in brackets :

1. I experience a change within myself.....[which/who/whom] can only be called mystical.
2. The man [who/whom/which] has been to the mountain-top becomes conscious in a special manner of his own smallness in this large universe.
3. He returned to the spot.....[where/what/when] the fawn had emerged and dropped on all fours.
4. You look at his eyes [which/who/whom] can speak.
5. Before you, like a lantern [whose/whom/which] walls are worn so thin you glimpse only the light inside, is the incandescence of a man.
6. In the evening it attacked one of Bijju's cows but fled at the approach of Bijju's mother, [whom/who/which] came screaming imprecations.
7. His mother told him a story [that/who/where] own mother had told her.
8. He spent his childhood in the log-cottage [when/that/where] he was born.
9. The great man, [who/whom/that] was to bear a resemblance to the Great Stone Face, had appeared at last.
10. The poet laid his finger on the book.....[that/who/whom] Ernest had been reading.

ANSWERS**Exercise-1**

1. that 2. who 3. whose 4. what 5. where 6. that 7. who 8. that 9. whose 10. who

Exercise-2

1. where 2. when 3. where 4. where 5. when 6. why 7. where 8. when 9. where 10. why

Exercise-3

1. who 2. what 3. when 4. who 5. that 6. what 7. who 8. who 9. which 10. who

Exercise-5

1. which 2. who 3. where 4. which 5. whose 6. who 7. that 8. where 9. who 10. that.

